



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/692,924

10/23/2003

Jeffrey L. Bogdan

3382-66148

9050

26119 7590 01/29/2007
KLARQUIST SPARKMAN LLP
121 S.W. SALMON STREET
SUITE 1600
PORTLAND, OR 97204

EXAMINER

CARLETON, THUY T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2179

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
--	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

01/29/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,924

Applicant(s)

BOGDAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thuy Carleton

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 05/27/2004.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2179

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-30 are pending and have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

As to claim 1:

a. A "computer readable media" is being recited; however, as disclosed by the specification sections, it is not limited to tangible product. Therefore, it is subjected to non-statutory.

b. A "data structure" is being recited; however, as disclosed by the specification sections are taught to be a non-functional descriptive material that includes mere arrangement to data.

As such, claims 2-12 are rejected as incorporating the deficiencies of a claim upon which it depends.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lennon et al. (US Pub 2004/0015783), hereinafter “Lennon”

As claim 1, Lennon teaches computer readable media having encoded thereon a data structure (par [0121] and [0855]) representing a visual style to be applied to one or more object instances of a lookless user interface element for rendering the user interface element according to the visual style (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0591], lines 22-24) the data structure comprising:

a visual tree comprising a hierarchy of one or more sub-elements of the user interface element to be used by user interface services for composing and rendering the user interface element (fig. 1; par [0112], lines 1-6; par [0145]);

and one or more bindings between visual properties of the user interface element and corresponding properties of its sub-elements (par [0145], lines 12-24; [0284]), wherein the sub-elements consume values associated with bound properties of the user interface element for rendering the user interface element according to the visual style (par [0144], lines 15-21).

As claim 2, Lennon further teaches each of the one or more bindings are between a single visual property of a user interface element to a single corresponding visual property of a sub-element (par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0284]; par [0144], lines 15-21).

As claim 3, Lennon further teaches each of the bindings are expressed in a declarative statement (par [0158], that bindings refers to the process of representing the information in an XML and XML processing is driving by a declarative statements).

As claim 4, Lennon further teaches the declarative statement comprises a target property associated with the UI element and a source property associated with a corresponding one of the sub-elements (par [0134]).

As claim 5, Lennon further teaches a syntax for the declarative statement indicative of the binding comprises SourceProperty="*Alias (Target=Property)" (par [0224]; par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0284]).

As claim 6, Lennon further teaches the data structure further comprises one or more visual properties of the user interface element with values corresponding to one or more named resources (Abstract, lines 19-26, par [0145], lines 12-24; [0284]; par [0591]).

As claim 7, Lennon further teaches the one or more of the named resources is a named style (par [0134]).

As claim 8, Lennon further teaches the data structure further comprises at least one visual property of at least one of the sub-elements with values corresponding to one or more named resources (Abstract, lines 19-26; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0284]; par [0591]).

As claim 9, Lennon further teaches one or more of the named resources is a named style (par [0134]).

As claim 10, Lennon further teaches a command instruction for driving changes in the visual aspects of the user interface element (par [0158], that bindings refers to the process of representing the information (e.g., commands) in an XML and XML processing is driving by a declarative statements) via changes to the functional aspects of the sub-elements (par [0239]).

As claim 11, Lennon further teaches the command instruction is associated with an indicator that is indicative of one or more of the changes to functional aspects of the sub-elements (par [0158], that bindings refers to the process of representing the information (e.g., commands) in an XML and XML processing is driving by a declarative statements) that may be caused by user interaction (par [0239]).

As claim 12, Lennon further teaches a command instruction for causing a change in the visual properties of the UI element (par [0158], that bindings refers to the process of representing the information (e.g., commands) in an XML and XML processing is driving by a declarative statements) due to an event causing a change in the functional aspects of one of the sub-elements (par [0239]).

As claim 13, Lennon teaches in a computer system operating according to an operating system comprising a user interface service (par [0121]; par [0855]), a method of applying a visual style for rendering a user interface element on a display according to the visual style (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0591], lines 22-24), the method comprising:

determining which one of one or more visual styles related to a type of the user interface element is to be applied to the user interface (par [0253]; par [0255]);

retrieving one or more style documents describing the determined visual style ([0148]);

wherein the one or more style documents comprise a description of a visual tree including one or more sub-elements of the user interface element (par [0159]; par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0591], lines 22-24);

and using the visual tree description to generate instances of the sub-elements of the user interface element (fig. 1; par [0112], lines 1-6; par [0145], lines 12-28) and selectively binding visual properties of the sub-elements (par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0284]) to consume corresponding properties of the user interface element for rendering the user interface element according to the determined visual style (par [0144], lines 15-21).

As claim 14, Lennon further teaches determining which one of the one or more styles to apply is based on a type of the user interface element (par [0591]).

As claim 15, Lennon further teaches determining which one of the one or more styles to apply is based on a name related to a visual style assigned by name to the user interface element (par [0591]).

As claim 16, Lennon further teaches determining which one of the one or more styles to apply results in a default style being applied (par [0591]).

As claim 17, Lennon further teaches parsing the one or more style documents related to the determined visual style for named resources corresponding to visual style properties (par [0244]; par [0253]) for rendering the user interface according to visual property values specified by the named resources (par [0591]).

As claim 18, Lennon further teaches the named resources are defined in a document independent of the one or more style documents related to the visual style (par [0591]).

As claim 19, Lennon further teaches one or more of the named resources is a named style (par [0134]) associated with another one of a type of user interface element.

As claim 20, Lennon further teaches using command instructions included in the one or more style documents for driving changes in properties of the user interface element (par [0158], that bindings refers to the process of representing the information (e.g., commands) in an XML and XML processing is driving by a declarative statements).

As claim 21, Lennon further teaches the command instructions are executed upon a change in functional aspects of the one or more sub-elements of the user interface element (par [0239], that by modifying or applying changes the user may update the existing data view and inherently change the functional aspects to include invoking commands).

As claim 22, Lennon further teaches the properties to be changed are consumed by another one of the sub-elements according to a binding indicated in the determined visual style document (par [0144], lines 15-21).

As claim 23, Lennon teaches in a computer system having an operating system platform (par [0121]), a user interface framework system for rendering a user interface element composed of sub-elements according to a visual style defined for the user interface element type (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0591], lines 22-24; par [0284]), the system comprising:

a lookless definition of the user interface element (par [0591], lines 22-24);

a style library for holding one or more visual style documents to be selectively applied to the lookless user interface element for rendering the initially lookless user interface element (par [0591]);

a style engine for resolving which of the one or more visual style documents is selected to be applied to the user interface element (par [0785]);

and a user interface element factory (fig. 1; par [0112], lines 1-6; par [0145], lines 12-28) for creating instances of sub-elements for composing the user interface element according to the selected visual style document for rendering (par [0144], lines 15-21).

As claim 24, Lennon further teaches the user interface element factory instantiates sub-elements according to the selected visual style comprising a description of a visual tree of the sub-elements used for composing the user interface element document (fig. 1; par [0112], lines 1-6; par [0145], lines 12-28);

Art Unit: 2179

As claim 25, Lennon further teaches the selected visual style document comprises bindings between the user interface element and its sub-elements (par [0145], lines 12-24; [0284]) and the user interface framework system is operative for exposing selected visual properties of the sub-elements as visual properties of the user interface element itself according to the bindings (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0591], lines 22-24; par [0284]).

As claim 26, Lennon further teaches operating for enabling the sub-elements to consume values of their visual properties correspondingly associated with the visual properties of the user interface element according to the bindings (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0284]).

As claim 27, Lennon further teaches the selected visual style document comprises at least one specification of one or more visual properties having values corresponding to one or more named resources (par [0145], lines 12-24; [0284]) and the user interface framework system is operable for rendering the user interface element according to the specification (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0591], lines 22-24; par [0284]).

As claim 28, Lennon further teaches one or more named resource is a named style (par [0134]).

As claim 29, Lennon further teaches one or more named resources are defined independently of the selected visual style document (par [0145]).

As claim 30, Lennon further teaches the selected visual style document comprises one or more command instructions (par [0158], that bindings refers to the process of representing the information (e.g., commands) in an XML and XML processing is driving by a declarative statements) and the user interface framework system is operable for causing changes in properties of the user interface element (par [0144], lines 15-21; par [0145], lines 12-24; par [0591], lines 22-24; par [0284]) according to changes in functional aspects of the sub-elements as indicated by the command instructions (par [0239], that by modifying or applying changes the user may update the existing data view and inherently change the functional aspects).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lin et al. (US Patent 6,941,521) – Method for dynamically generating a user interface from XML-Base documents.

Szabo (US Patent 6,868,525) – Computer graphic display visualization system and method.

Gibbs et al. (US Patent 6,292,187) – Method and system for modifying the visual presentation and response to user action of a broadcast application's user interface.

Richardsom et al. (US Pub 2004/0199529) – Method and system for supporting hierarchical tree filtering.

Bushe et al. (US Patent 6,978,422) – Method and apparatus for displaying managed resource information.

Art Unit: 2179

Rangarajan et al. (US Patent 6,275,225) – Method, apparatus, system and computer program product for a user configurable graphical user interface.

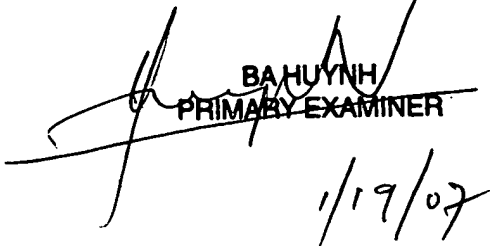
Thompson et al. (US Patent 6,571,253) – Hierarchical view of data binding between display elements that are organized in a hierarchical structure to a data store that is also organized in a hierarchical structure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Carleton whose telephone number is 571-270-1258. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30AM-5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thuy Carleton


BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER
1/19/07